

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO ISHPEMING SKI CLUB 120TH ANNUAL SKI JUMPING TOURNAMENT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2007

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of Michigan's Upper Peninsula's greatest most esteemed, and long-standing institutions: the Ishpeming Ski Club. Founded in 1887 as the Norden Ski Club, the Ishpeming Ski Club is the oldest continuously active ski club in our Nation.

Later this month, the Ishpeming Ski Club will sponsor its 120th annual Ski Jumping Tournament. For twelve decades now, skiers from across our Nation have convened in Ishpeming to participate in one of the oldest ski jumping tournaments anywhere. The Ishpeming Ski Club's first tournament was held 120 years ago on February 25 and, this year, the Ski Club will hold its tournament on that same date in order to honor the 120 years of continuous ski jumping tournaments.

The city of Ishpeming has a rich heritage that is closely intertwined with the history of skiing in the United States. Many ski jumping enthusiasts recognize this small town of 7,500 people, nestled just outside of Marquette, as the birthplace of American ski jumping. The National Ski Association was formed in Ishpeming in 1905. Today, the association is called the United States Ski and Snowboard Association.

While there have been ski jumping competitions at many different locations in Ishpeming, in 1926, the tournament began to use its current site, which has been the site for the tournament ever since.

The National Ski Hall of Fame was erected in Ishpeming in 1953 and follows the growth and development of the sport of skiing from its beginnings nearly 5,000 years ago to the present and beyond. There are over 100 displays including the Story of the 10th Mountain Division, Ski Fashions Throughout History, and the Development of the Chairlift. The placement of the National Ski Hall of Fame in Ishpeming is a testament to the formative role the city and its residents played in the development of skiing and ski jumping in America and the world.

The Ishpeming ski jumping site provides some of the best ski jumping in the Midwest and, as such, has been used for tryouts for the Olympics, as well as hosted numerous nationally acclaimed skiing events. In both 1960 and 1963, the Ishpeming ski jump site was used for Olympics tryouts. In 1983, the tournament hosted the USA Central Division Championships, the Junior Olympic tryouts and the Masters Championship all on the same weekend. In 1987, Ishpeming hosted the Nordic Combined National Championships.

Skiing is not only important to the way of life in Ishpeming, but it has also helped unite the community. Every year at the Ishpeming annual

tournament, local citizens and community groups have organized parades, dog sled races, princess pageants, dances and balls. This year, the Ishpeming Downtown Development Association will sponsor a parade, youth dog sled races, fireworks, and a bonfire. In previous years, neighboring communities such as Negaunee and nearby businesses such as Cleveland Cliffs Mining Company have provided support for the festive events that surround Ishpeming's annual ski jump tournament.

As Ishpeming celebrates its 120th ski jumping tournament, the future is bright. Next year, in 2008, Ishpeming's tournament will host the Junior Nordic championship and 50 young ski jumpers from around the Nation will compete in Ishpeming to be the top American ski jumper in their age group.

Madam Speaker, ski jumping is an ancient sport, but American ski jumping developed relatively recent. Its evolution is in many ways a uniquely Midwestern phenomenon. I am proud of the way the city of Ishpeming and the Ishpeming Ski Club have contributed to the popularity of this sport in the United States. I am confident Ishpeming has an exciting role to play as this sport continues to evolve in coming decades. In the meantime, I respectfully request that the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating the City of Ishpeming and its residents as well as the Ishpeming Ski Club and its officers and volunteers on the anniversary of its 120th ski jump tournament.

TRIBUTE TO HILARY LEWIS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Hilary Lewis, who will be honored for her 30 years of service to Jewish education in the Greater Kansas City area on February 25. The Jewish Educators' Council of CAJE/The Jewish Federation, along with our community, will recognize Hilary's many contributions as a Jewish educator and for her work at CAJE, formally the Central Agency for Jewish Education.

Over the years, Hilary has worked with educators, parents and students to provide children at all congregations the best Jewish education possible. She has been instrumental as the principal of the Community High School of Jewish Studies, in providing continuing and relevant educational opportunities for hundreds of teens during their high school years. She has a talent for inspiring these young people to go beyond the acquisition of basic knowledge and she mentors them as they discover their own talents in reaching higher levels of understanding.

In addition to her work with children, Hilary has inspired many adults to share their love of Judaism and become religious school teach-

ers. Hilary is the ultimate problem solver and uses her incredible creativity to guide and inspire these teachers while helping them develop the skills needed to educate our youth.

Hilary Lewis has and will continue to be one of the premier Jewish educators in the Greater Kansas City area, helping our community grow "from strength to strength." Madam Speaker, I know that all members of the U.S. House of Representatives join with me in paying tribute to this valued educator and leader of the Kansas City community.

THE PURPLE HEART FAMILY EQUITY ACT

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 16, 2007

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 1119, the Purple Heart Family Equity Act.

I am pleased to introduce this legislation along with my distinguished colleagues Congressman ROY BLUNT and Congresswoman VIRGINIA FOXX. We seek to fully honor the women of the Armed Forces who have won the Purple Heart defending our great freedoms and their families.

The Purple Heart, Madam Speaker, is a military decoration awarded to service members who have been wounded or killed while serving with the U.S. military. Modeled after the Badge of Military Merit given by George Washington to members of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration currently in use and was the first to be made available to every service member.

It is time we built upon the great traditions of the Purple Heart and fully recognize the women who have received this high honor. Surely, their wounds and sacrifices are just as meaningful.

Male members of the Order are allowed to invite their wives to join with limited membership benefits, according to the current Federal Charter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. But female members are not allowed to invite their husbands. Surely, we here in this Chamber are not in the business of extending rights to our brave men who receive this award but not our brave women.

I stand here today to urge my colleagues to support the Purple Heart Family Equity Act. This bill will update the Federal Charter of the Military Order of the Purple Heart to allow husbands of female members of the Order to become Associate Members.

The first women to be awarded the Purple Heart was 1LT Annie G. Fox. She was awarded this distinction in 1941 after the attack on

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